Ins a7

~~CLAIMS~~

1. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule comprising an inducible pathogenesis-related protein gene promoter which:

i) naturally drives the expression of a 21.3kDa protein in *Asparagus officinalis* upon induction by plant regulators; or

ii) naturally drives the expression of proteins equivalent to the 21.3kDa protein of *Asparagus officinalis*, from the *Lillaceae* or *Amaryllidaceae* families; or

iii) naturally drives the expression of proteins substantially homologous to those of i) or ii); or

iv) hybridises under stringent conditions to any one of the promoters of i), ii) or iii).

2. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to claim 1, wherein said promoter which naturally drives the expression of a 21.3 kDa protein in *Asparagus officinalis* is inducible by plant regulators salicylic acid or BTH.

3. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the 21.3kDa protein of *Asparagus officinalis* is a thaumatin-like PR-5 protein.

Sub a8

4. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said promoter includes the nucleotide sequence of Figure 6.

5. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule comprising a promoter having at least the SA responsive element from –247bp to –132bp of Figure 6.

6. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule comprising a chimeric promoter including at least a non-AoPRT-L gene promoter and the SA responsive element of claim 5.

Sub a9

7. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule comprising at least two promoter sequences of any one of claims 1 to 6, arranged in series.

8. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to claim 7, comprising linker sequences between promoter sequences.

9. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to any one of claims 7 or 8, wherein at least one of said promoters comprises the SA responsive element of claim 5.

Sub a10

10. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule comprising an amplification system, wherein said amplification system is operably linked to a promoter according to any one of claims 1 to 9.

11. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to claim 10, wherein said amplification system comprises a transactivator sequence or a mRNA viral replicase system.

12. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to claim 11 wherein the amplification system comprises a transactivator sequence and a second promoter sequence, wherein the second promoter sequence is the target of the transactivator.

Sub a11

13. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to claim 11 or claim 12, wherein said transactivator sequence is preferably LhG4, and said second promoter sequence is preferably pOP910.

14. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to any one of claims 1 to 13 operably linked to a DNA sequence encoding a product of interest.

15. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to claim 14, wherein said product of interest is a protein, or a product which is able to regulate expression of a protein.

16. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to claim 14 or claim 15, wherein said product, when expressed, affects a plant trait.

17. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to claim 16, wherein the plant trait affected is any one of pathogen resistance, disease control, sterility, fertility or fruit ripening.

18. A recombinant or isolated DNA molecule according to any one of claims 14 to 17 further comprising a marker gene.

19. A vector comprising the recombinant or isolated DNA molecule of any one of claims 1 to 18.

20. A host cell comprising a DNA molecule of any one of claims 1 to 18 or a vector of claim 19.

21. A host cell according to claim 20, wherein said host cell is a plant cell or a microbial cell.

22. A transgenic plant comprising at least one cell according to claim 21.

23. A method of identifying an agent capable of regulating the expression of

heterologous genes which are operatively linked to the promoter of any one of claims 1 to 9, the method comprising the steps of applying a putative agent to the sample comprising the promoter of any one of claims 1 to 9 operatively linked to a gene, and measuring the expression level of the gene.

24. An agent capable of regulating the expression of heterologous genes operatively linked to the promoter of any one of claims 1 to 9, obtainable by the method of claim 23.